

Senate Bill No. 204

Passed the Senate August 26, 2014

Secretary of the Senate

Passed the Assembly August 21, 2014

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2014, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to add and repeal Section 4076.3 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to pharmacy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 204, Corbett. Prescription drugs: labeling.

The Pharmacy Law provides for the licensure and regulation of pharmacists by the California State Board of Pharmacy. Existing law prohibits a pharmacist from dispensing any prescription unless it is in a specified container that is correctly labeled to include, among other information, the directions for the use of the drug. Existing regulations of the board provide standardized directions for use that are required to be used on drug container labels, as specified.

This bill would require the board to conduct a survey of a representative sample of licensed pharmacists to determine the usage of the directions for use described above. The bill would require this survey to address certain issues, including, but not limited to, whether and how often the pharmacist utilizes the directions for use, barriers to utilizing the directions for use, and other directions for use utilized by the pharmacist. The bill would also require the board to conduct a similar survey of vendors that provide electronic health records (EHR) to pharmacies and prescribers to determine the type of directions for use included in the vendor's EHR programming, as specified. The bill would authorize these surveys to be conducted with other routine surveys conducted by the board during its regular course of business. The bill would require the board to report the survey findings at its July 2016 board meeting and to publish the findings on the board's Internet Web site, as specified.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 4076.3 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4076.3. (a) The board shall conduct a survey of a representative sample of licensed pharmacists to determine the utilization of the

standardized directions for use provided in paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 1707.5 of Article 2 of Division 17 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations. The survey shall address, but not be limited to, all of the following issues:

(1) Whether the pharmacist utilizes the standardized directions for use.

(2) How often the pharmacist utilizes the standardized directions for use.

(3) Challenges or barriers to utilizing the standardized directions for use.

(4) Other directions for use utilized by the pharmacist.

(b) The board shall conduct a survey of vendors that provide electronic health records (EHR) to pharmacies and prescribers to determine the type of directions for use included in the vendor's EHR programming. The survey shall address, but not be limited to, all of the following issues:

(1) Whether the standardized directions for use described in subdivision (a) are included in the vendor's EHR programming.

(2) Challenges or barriers to utilizing the standardized directions for use in the vendor's EHR programming.

(3) Other directions for use utilized by the vendor in its EHR programming.

(c) The surveys required by this section may be conducted with other routine surveys conducted by the board during its regular course of business.

(d) The board shall report the findings of the surveys required by this section in the aggregate at its July 2016 board meeting and publish these findings on its Internet Web site.

This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2020, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2020, deletes or extends that date.

Approved _____, 2014

Governor